

2016 PARCC Administration Dates

The PASS model refers to the term "parent" as any adult who plays an important role in a child's family life.

The New Jersey Department of Education's model for home/school partnerships – **The Parent Academy for Student Success (PASS)** – provides documents and support tools intended to complement information about the state's academic standards and annual assessments for students. The PASS model provides resources, materials, and opportunities for parents and educators to build home/school partnerships in the best interest of students' academic success. *Parents should use this document to ask their child's teacher or the principal at their child's school about testing dates for PARCC.*

Updates on the administration dates of New Jersey's annual state education test - PARCC

On May 21, 2015, New Jersey's Commissioner of Education David Hespe, announced that the 2016 version of PARCC will be 90 minutes shorter, and the test administration will be moved to later in the school year. The new design also requires that the state wait until 75 percent of the school year is completed before starting the testing period. Therefore, the test cannot be administered until day 133 in a 180-day instructional year, and it must be finished by the time 90 percent of instruction has been completed. Most schools will complete all testing in one to two weeks. The test administration dates reflect the length of time that the PARCC testing platform is available to New Jersey students.

**The PARCC updates
reduce testing time by
approximately 90
minutes in all grade
levels:**

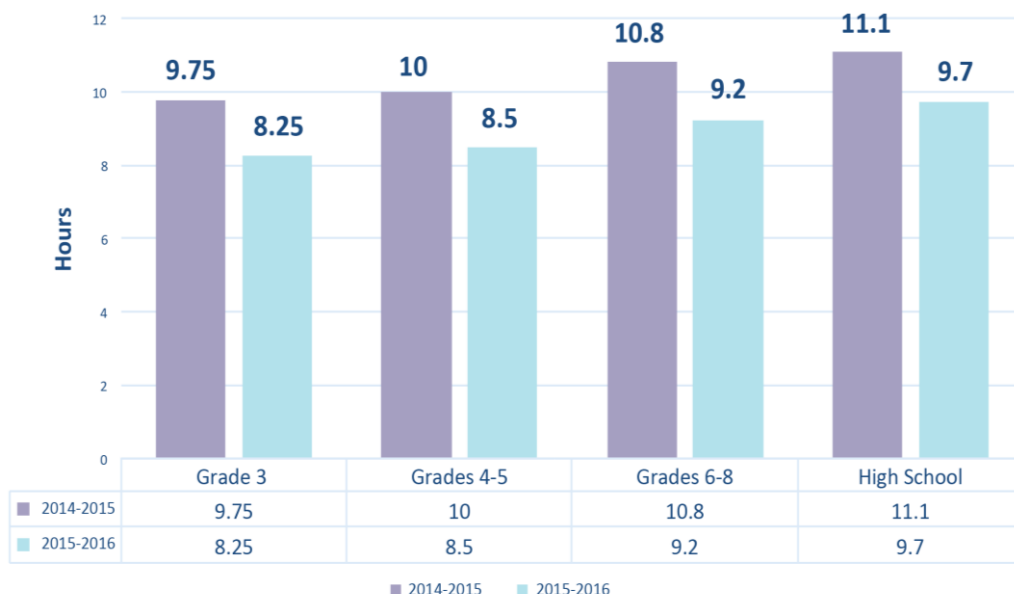
1.5 hours less for grade 3

1.5 hours less for grades 4-5

1.6 hours less for grades 6-8

1.4 hours less for high School

Total Testing Time: 2014-15 v. 2015-16

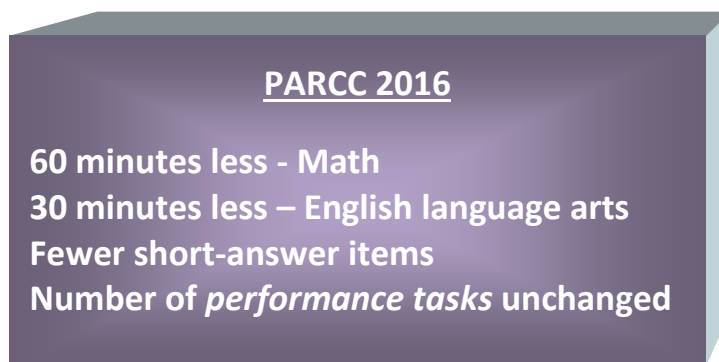


Overall, students will spend 60 minutes less on math and 30 minutes less in English language arts (ELA). The number of performance tasks remains the same, but there will be fewer short-answer items on the test.

Each PARCC assessment, for example grade 4 math, is administered in multiple sections called units. The redesigned ELA tests are composed of three units. The proposed math tests are composed of three or four units.

	2014-2015			2015-2016			The updates to PARCC reduce the number of testing units for students in all grades: 1 unit less for grade 3 1 unit less for grades 4-5 3 units less for grades 6-8 3 units less for High School
Grades	ELA	Math	Total	ELA	Math	Total	
3	4	4	8	3	4	7	
4-5	4	4	8	3	4	7	
6-8	5	4	9	3	3	6	
High School	5	4	9	3	3	6	

Last year, students took the PARCC test in eight or nine “units,” or sessions, depending on grade level and those sessions varied from 60 to 90 minutes each. This year, students will take six or seven units, depending on grade level, and test sessions will be reduced from eight or nine down to six or seven. Depending on the grade level, sessions will range from 75 to 110 minutes each.



"[The revisions] will improve and simplify test administration for schools, teachers and students, without diminishing the goal of the assessment—to ensure every student in every school is being taught what they need to know order to be successful in the next school year and, ultimately, in college or career."

PARCC press release

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<http://www.state.nj.us/education/assessment/schedule.pdf>

PARCC – Grades 3-8

The testing window for regular computer-based administration is between April 4, 2016 and May 13, 2016.

The testing window for paper-based administration is between April 11, 2016 and April 22, 2016.
(Local districts will schedule the paper-based version for those students who require adapted versions of the 3-8 assessment.)

PARCC – High School Regular Schedule

The testing window for regular computer-based administration is between April 11, 2016 and May 20, 2016

The testing window for paper-based administration is between April 11, 2016 and April 22, 2016.
(Local districts will schedule the paper-based version for those students who require adapted versions of the high school assessment.)

PARCC – High School *FALL* Block Schedule

Part One: Performance-Based Assessment (PBA)

Administration dates for both computer-based and paper-based tests November 9 – December 11, 2015

Part Two: End-of-Year Assessment (EOY)

Administration dates for both computer-based and paper-based tests January 4 – January 29, 2016

PARCC – High School *SPRING* Block Schedule

Regular computer-based administration time

Local districts with block scheduling will conduct computer-based testing between April 25, 2016 and June 3, 2016

Paper-based administration time (For those students who require adapted versions of the assessment)

Local districts with block scheduling will conduct paper-based testing between April 25 and May 6, 2016

Dynamic Learning Maps Alternate Proficiency Assessment (DLM) and the Alternate Proficiency Assessment (APA)

The Dynamic Learning Maps assessment (DLM) and the Alternate Proficiency Assessment (APA) are adaptive assessments that will be administered to the one percent of students with the most significant cognitive impairments. The assessments are aligned to the state's academic standards.

The English language arts and mathematics sections will be given to appropriate student in grades 3-8 and 11.

The computer-based DLM testing will be administered between April 11, 2016 and May 13, 2016

<http://www.state.nj.us/education/assessment/apa/dlm/>

The science section will be given to appropriate students in grades 4, 8, and high school.

The portfolio-based APA in science will be administered as follows:

Portfolio Collection Window #1: Between Sept. 1, 2015 and Nov. 13, 2015

Portfolio Collection Window #2: Between December 7, 2015 and Feb. 12, 2016

<http://www.state.nj.us/education/assessment/apa/>

Schools will create their own testing schedule based on their technology capabilities and school calendars.

Science

NJASK Science: Grades 4 and 8

Regular administration date May 25, 2016

Make-up date June 1, 2016

<http://www.state.nj.us/education/assessment/njask/>

NJ Biology Competency Test (NJBCT)

Regular administration dates May 25-26, 2016

Make-up dates June 1-2, 2016

<http://www.state.nj.us/education/assessment/hs/njbct.shtml>

For more specific information on PARCC assessments in New Jersey go to: <http://www.state.nj.us/education/assessment/>.

For more general information on PARCC assessments go to: <http://www.parcconline.org/assessments/test-design/design-changes>

For information on the NJDOE PASS model go to: <http://www.state.nj.us/education/sca/toolkit/>.

How can my child get ready for PARCC?

- PARCC looks at effective teaching practices and mirrors them in the assessments. The questions you'll find on the PARCC state test look like assignments teachers in effective classrooms give their students every day. So there isn't anything special that students need to do, and we discourage "prepping for the test."
- However, PARCC has released [practice tests](#) and [sample questions](#) so that students and families can become familiar with the online format and the types of questions on the new tests. Families can also check with their child's school to find out what they are doing in advance of the tests.

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